



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

STEPHEN M. ALLEN ET AL.

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: BB1162 US NA

APPLICATION NO.: 09/679,687

GROUP ART UNIT: 1647

FILED: OCTOBER 5, 2000

EXAMINER: WEGERT, SANDRA L.

CONFIRMATION NO.: 1467

FOR: SUCROSE TRANSPORTERS

12/1
M.G.
2/11/03

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

FEB 06 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 27, 2002. A Petition for Extension of Time for three (3) months up to and including January 27, 2003, is filed simultaneously herewith. Please enter the following:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows; a marked-up version showing changes made is attached hereto:

At page 1, line 2:

SUCROSE TRANSPORT PROTEINS

Paragraph at page 5, line 34 through page 6, line 18:

A "substantial portion" of an amino acid or nucleotide sequence comprises enough of the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide or the nucleotide sequence of a gene to afford putative identification of that polypeptide or gene, either by manual evaluation of the sequence by one skilled in the art, or by computer-automated sequence comparison and identification using algorithms such as BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool; Altschul, S. F., et al., (1993) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410). In general, a sequence of ten or more contiguous amino acids or thirty or more nucleotides is necessary in order to putatively identify a polypeptide or nucleic acid sequence as homologous to a known protein or gene. Moreover, with respect to nucleotide sequences, gene specific oligonucleotide probes comprising 20-30